

## Why choose Political Science & International Relation (PSIR) as optional?

PSIR is **one of the most suitable optional** in the current scenario. PSIR CONTRIBUTES **1000 plus MARKS** IN CURRENT PATTERN OF CSE.

- Optional-I- 250 marks
- Optional-II – 250 marks
- G.S. Essay- 250 marks
- GS I, II, III and IV- 150 plus marks
- Personality Test/Interview- 150 Plus marks

PSIR is the best performing optional in the changed scenario with Predictability in Question Pattern.

- One can score 60 to 70 percent of 750 Marks (PSIR + Essay) with basic understanding of PSIR.
- The syllabus of PSIR is **inter-linked with General Studies Syllabus** and is application based in both the papers.
- Every year there is **at least one Essay topic** related with PSIR syllabus.
- PSIR is extremely helpful in Personality Test/Interview.
- Comprehensiveness and greater Predictability in Question Pattern makes it the **'Most Suitable Subject'** for Students with **Science (Engineering and Medicine) and Commerce Background.**

## Convergences with GS syllabus

Political Science &IR helps you in multiple ways due to its greater convergences with GS syllabus as enumerated below-

### GS Paper I-

- The Freedom Struggle - its various stages and important contributors or contributions from different parts of the country.
- Post-independence consolidation and reorganization within the country.
- History of the world topics like- colonization, decolonization, **political philosophies like communism, capitalism, socialism** etc. - their forms and effect on the society.
- Role of women and women's organization, developmental issues
- Effects of **globalization** on Indian society.
- Social empowerment, **communalism, regionalism & secularism**

## GS paper II-

Entire GS Paper II excluding some governance and Social Justice issues

## GS PAPER III-

- **Land reforms** in India and Green Revolution
- Effects of **liberalization** on the economy, changes in industrial policy and their effects
- Issues relating to intellectual property rights.
- Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation
- Linkages between development and spread of extremism.
- **Role of external state and non-state actors in creating challenges to internal security.**
- Challenges to internal security through communication networks,
- **Security challenges** and their management in border areas; linkages of organized crime with terrorism

## GS PAPER IV-

- Contributions of **moral thinkers and philosophers** from India and world.
- Ethical issues in international relations and funding

## Syllabus Of Political Science

### PAPER - I: POLITICAL THEORY AND INDIAN POLITICS

#### SECTION A- Political Theory

- Political Theory: meaning and approaches.
- Theories of the State: Liberal, Neo-liberal, Marxist, Pluralist, Post-colonial and feminist.
- Justice: Conceptions of justice with special reference to Rawls' theory of justice and its communitarian critiques.
- Equality: Social, political and economic; relationship between equality and freedom; Affirmative action.
- Rights: Meaning and theories; different kinds of rights; concept of Human Rights.
- Democracy: Classical and contemporary theories; different models of democracy: representative, participatory and deliberative.
- Concept of power, hegemony, ideology and legitimacy.
- Political Ideologies: Liberalism, Socialism, Marxism, Fascism, Gandhism and Feminism.

#### Political Thought

- Indian Political Thought: Dharamshastra, Arthashastra and Buddhist traditions; Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, Sri Aurobindo, M.K. Gandhi, B.R. Ambedkar, M.N. Roy.
- Western Political Thought: Plato, Aristotle, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, John S. Mill, Marx, Gramsci, and Hannah Arendt.

**SECTION B- Indian Government and Politics**

- **Indian Nationalism:**
  - a. Political Strategies of India's Freedom Struggle: Constitutionalism to mass Satyagraha, Non-cooperation, Civil Disobedience; Militant and revolutionary movements, Peasant and workers' movements.
  - b. Perspectives on Indian National Movement: Liberal, Socialist and Marxist; Radical humanist and Dalit.
- **Making of the Indian Constitution:** Legacies of the British rule; different social and political perspectives.
- **Salient Features of the Indian Constitution:** The Preamble, Fundamental Rights and Duties, Directive Principles; Parliamentary System and Amendment Procedures; Judicial Review and Basic Structure doctrine.
- (a) **Principal Organs of the Union Government:** Envisaged role and actual working of the Executive, Legislature and Supreme Court.  
(b) **Principal Organs of the State Government:** Envisaged role and actual working of the Executive, Legislature and High Courts.
- **Grassroots Democracy:** Panchayati Raj and Municipal Government; significance of 73rd and 74th Amendments; Grassroot movements.
- **Statutory Institutions/Commissions:** Election Commission, Comptroller and Auditor General, Finance Commission, Union Public Service Commission, National Commission for Scheduled Castes, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, National Commission for Women; National Human Rights Commission, National Commission for Minorities, National Backward Classes Commission.
- **Federalism:** Constitutional provisions; changing nature of centre-state relations; integrationist tendencies and regional aspirations; inter-state disputes.

- **Planning and Economic Development** : Nehruvian and Gandhian perspectives; role of planning and public sector; Green Revolution, land reforms and agrarian relations; liberalization and economic reforms.
- **Caste, Religion and Ethnicity in Indian Politics.**
- **Party System:** National and regional political parties, ideological and social bases of parties; patterns of coalition politics; Pressure groups, trends in electoral behaviour; changing socio- economic profile of Legislators
- **Social Movements:** Civil liberties and human rights movements; women's movements; environmentalist movements.

## Paper I – Reading List

### SECTION A

- Political theory – An introduction to political theory by OP Gauba (8<sup>th</sup> edition)
- Political theory by Andrew Heywood
- Western Political Thought – Subroto Mukherjee and Sushila Ramawsamy
- Indian Political Thought – Ignou MA booklet on political thought + classroom handouts

### SECTION B

- Indian Government and Politics – Oxford handbook on Indian politics (edited) By Pratap Bhanu Mehta and Niraja Jayal
- Indian government and politics by AS Narang + class handouts
- Selected articles in *The Hindu* and *The Indian Express*, and other reputed journals like EPW etc

**Paper II****Section A: Comparative Politics and International Relations**

- Comparative Politics: Nature and major approaches; Political economy and political sociology perspectives; Limitations of the comparative method.
- State in Comparative Perspective: Characteristics and changing nature of the State in capitalist and socialist economies, and advanced industrial and developing societies.
- Politics of Representation and Participation: Political parties, pressure groups and social movements in advanced industrial and developing societies.
- Globalization: Responses from developed and developing societies.
- Approaches to the Study of International Relations: Idealist, Realist, Marxist, Functionalist and Systems theory.
- Key concepts in International Relations: National interest, Security and power; Balance of power and deterrence; Transnational actors and collective security; World capitalist economy and globalization.
- Changing International Political Order:
  - a) Rise of super powers; strategic and ideological Bipolarity, arms race and Cold War; nuclear threat;
  - b) Non-aligned movement: Aims and achievements;
  - c) Collapse of the Soviet Union; Unipolarity and American hegemony; relevance of non-alignment in the contemporary world.
- Evolution of the International Economic System: From Bretton woods to WTO; Socialist economies and the CMEA (Council for Mutual Economic Assistance); Third World demand for new international economic order; Globalization of the world economy.



- United Nations: Envisaged role and actual record; specialized UN agencies-aims and functioning; need for UN reforms.
- Regionalization of World Politics: EU, ASEAN, APEC, SAARC, NAFTA.
- Contemporary Global Concerns: Democracy, human rights, environment, gender justice, terrorism, nuclear proliferation.

## **Section B: India and the World:**

- Indian Foreign Policy: Determinants of foreign policy; institutions of policy-making; continuity and change.
- India's Contribution to the Non-Alignment Movement: Different phases; current role.
- India and South Asia:
  - a) Regional Co-operation: SAARC – past performance and future prospects.
  - b) South Asia as a Free Trade Area.
  - c) India's "Look East" policy.
  - d) Impediments to regional co-operation: river water disputes; illegal cross-border migration; ethnic conflicts and insurgencies; border disputes.
- India and the Global South: Relations with Africa and Latin America; leadership role in the demand for NIEO and WTO negotiations.
- India and the Global Centres of Power: USA, EU, Japan, China and Russia.
- India and the UN System: Role in UN Peace-keeping; demand for Permanent Seat in the Security Council.
- India and the Nuclear Question: Changing perceptions and policy.



- Recent developments in Indian Foreign Policy: India's position on the recent crises in Afghanistan, Iraq, and West Asia, growing relations with US and Israel; Vision of a new world order.

## Paper II - Reading List

### Section A: Comparative Politics and International Relations

- “The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations” by John Baylis, Steve Smith and Patricia Owens.
- “Global Politics” by Andrew Heywood.
- “The Oxford Handbook of International Relations” by Christian Reus-Smit and Duncan Snidal.

### Section B: India and the World

- “Does the Elephant Dance: Contemporary Indian Foreign Policy” by David. M. Malone.
- “India's Foreign Policy since Independence” by V P. Dutt.
- “Challenge and Strategy: Rethinking India's Foreign Policy.” by Rajiv Sikri.
- IDSA website should be followed for articles.
- MEA website should be regularly followed for updates and articles.
- IR editorials should be followed in *The Hindu* and *The Indian Express*.
- The Oxford Handbook of Indian Foreign Policy” by David M. Malone, C Raja Mohan and Srinath Raghvan.
- “India's Foreign Policy: Retrospect and Prospect” by Sumit Ganguly.
- “Foreign Policy of India” by V N. Khanna.

## *SPECIAL FEATURES OF OPTIONAL CLASSROOM PROGRAMME*

Our aim is to provide “**ONE STOP SOLUTION**” for students for optional preparation. Following are the major components of our classroom programme:

- Strategic classroom preparation with special focus on conceptual clarity and understanding of trends and issues.
- Focus on lucid explanation instead of mere dictation with “Exam focused approach” that will inculcate in students the competency to deal with the unexpected questions.
- Concise, well – researched and exam ready study material on each and every topic.
- PSIR Mentorship programme: PSIR faculty would be available for personalised guidance and mentorship in order to help you sail through the uncharted waters of civil services exam preparation.
- Test series and answer writing programme are an essential aspects of the course.
- Comprehensive and timely coverage of syllabus

- We focus on inter-linkages among both optional papers, Paper I and II.
- Interactive class to bring out the best in student
- Classroom Session of 2.5 hours daily, seven days a week, total 375+ hours of Classroom teaching, and Discussions.
- Updated Extracts from Journals, Newspapers and Magazines relevant for dynamic portions of syllabus especially IGP & IR sections.

